

REMARKS

Claims 3 and 16-32 have been canceled without prejudice.

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 14, 2006 , Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1-2 and 4-15), drawn to a *L. fermentum* variant and components thereof. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuing application or take such other appropriate action as deemed necessary to protect the non-elected inventions. Although the non-elected claims have been canceled without prejudice, Applicants do not hereby abandon or waive any rights in the non-elected inventions.

This response is accompanied by a request for a five-month extension of time and appropriate fees. If an additional fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. **BSWV-P01-008** from which the undersigned is authorized to draw. In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Dated: March 12, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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